(c) the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA):

(a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Transportation of foodgrains to Karnataka

4460. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of wagons required to transport foodgrains under various schemes of Government to different parts of Karnataka;

(b) how may wagons have, so far, been despatched; and

(c) whether railway would despatch more wagons to expedite transportation of foodgrains in Northern Karnataka districts which are facing severe drought?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) The Food Corporation of India (F.C.I) has given a programme of movement of 109 foodgrain rakes for Karnataka for the month of April, 2003. Upto 28th April 2003, the Railways have loaded 110 rakes for transportation of foodgrains to Karnataka for Public Distribution System (P.D.S.) and other welfare schemes.

(c) Railways co-ordinate with F.C.I to ensure availability of adequate foodgrains in Karnataka.

Fast train between Amritsar and Chandigarh

4461. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways propose to introduce the fast train to link Amritsar—Chandigarh and whether any survey has been conducted in this regard :

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be introduced; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.